



United States Department of the Interior

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY
RESTON, VA 22092



In Reply Refer To:
WGS-Mail Stop 590

April 12, 1988

To: Members and Alternates, DOI Task Force for Coordination
of Remote Sensing

From: Recording Secretary

Subject: Report of April 6-7 Meeting and Request for Inputs to Second Draft
of Remote Sensing Report

The Task Force met in Denver on April 6 and 7 to review the first draft of the report being prepared on remote sensing in the Department. A list of attendees at the April 6 session is provided at the end of this memorandum.

The meeting began with a review of the format and anticipated departmental review process that would lead to a published report. Three recently published reports were circulated and identified as "role models" for the report. One DOI report, "The Mineral Position of the United States - 1987," was highlighted because its format, writing style/level of detail, and color illustrations are similar to what is desired for the remote sensing report.

Larry Pettinger reported on a conversation with Bill Stewart, Assistant Secretary - Water and Science, staff member and contact point for our Task Force. Bill confirmed the sequence for review of our report: initial review and concurrence by each bureau or office, and then review by the Assistant Secretaries at the request of the Assistant Secretary - Water and Science. Bill provided some useful comments, especially related to the general technical level of the report, and also the need to identify a special issue to get a briefing on the report on the Secretary's agenda.

The Task Force members discussed the general tone and approach of the report, and then reviewed the first draft, section by section. The following comments summarize the discussion. Specific actions are indicated (in parenthesis) for particular bureaus or all members, relating to revisions or new inputs to the first draft.

General

- Use DOI report "The Mineral Position of the United States - 1987" as a model for format/style/level of detail/color illustration (Pettinger to distribute copies).
- Review report title and suggest alternatives (all).
- Suggest design(s) for report cover (all).

- Provide illustrations (paper prints/slides) and captions to Pettinger (all).
- Provide inputs to bibliography (all).

Specific Section Comments

1. Introduction

- Qualify relative emphasis on remote sensing vs photogrammetry.
- Check numbers on land area of surface, subsurface, and offshore DOI responsibility.

2. (No Comments)

3. Current Uses

- Add background on remote sensing data types, characteristics (Pettinger/Bailey).
- Add discussion on role of remote sensing as data source for GIS and data integration process (NPS).
- Review land cover/vegetation mapping section, add wildlife applications (BIA/NPS/BLM).

Delete "aerial photographs" and "satellite data" subheadings from land cover section.
- Add "other applications" such as archeology and updating transportation routes (BIA and others).
- Add "international applications" section and provide appropriate inputs (all).

4. Bureau Capabilities

- Each bureau to prepare up to 2 pages (typed in double space) text on its remote sensing capabilities including facilities/location, investment in hardware/software, personnel and/or other elements describing the bureau's remote sensing activities.
- Delete subsection D - location of facilities.
- Need better title for this chapter (possibilities: operations, capabilities and resources, involvement, level of effort, programs).

5. Cooperation

- Previous section VA to become a separate section V.
- Reduce length substantially (Pettinger).

6. Interagency Roles

- Previous section VB to become separate section VI.
- All bureaus to submit lists of significant MOU's, cooperative remote sensing programs with other Federal agencies, states, and universities.
- Need more rationale and examples to support DOI involvement in global change/global earth science (all).

The revised report outline is attached, showing how the report structure has been changed in response to the group discussion and comments.

Task Force members have agreed to the following schedule:

Friday, April 22	All inputs, revisions, and illustrations/captions due to Larry Pettinger.
Wednesday, May 11	Second draft will be distributed to all members/alternates.
Thursday, May 26	Task Force meeting, 1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Room 7000B, Main Interior Bldg., Washington, D.C. (IDCCC meets in the same room in the morning)

I look forward to your continued active involvement and to our next meeting in Washington on May 26.



Lawrence R. Pettinger

Attachment

cc: W. Stewart, AS/WS

Attendees (M = member, A = alternate)

BIA:	W. Bonner (M), T. Feagen
BLM:	F. Batson
BOM:	Guy Johnson, Doug Peters
BOR:	J. Verdin (A), G. Teter
FWS:	None
MMS:	None
NPS:	P. Wondra (M), M. Nyquist (A)
OSMRE:	S. Parsons (A), D. Araki
PB&A:	None
USGS:	A. Watkins (M), L. Pettinger, B. Bailey

Remote Sensing: Its Significance and Future in the Department of the Interior

- I. Introduction
- II. Mission and Information Requirements
- III. Current Uses of Remote Sensing
 - A. Land cover/vegetation mapping
 - B. Fire fuels mapping
 - C. Mineral resource applications
 - D. Cartographic applications
 - E. Hydrologic applications
 - F. Marine applications
 - G. Other applications
 - H. International applications
- IV. Bureau Remote Sensing Capabilities
 - A. Overview of Bureau remote sensing facilities, programs, and resources committed to remote sensing
 - B. Purchase of remotely sensed data
- V. Cooperation in Remote Sensing Development and Application
 - 1. Data acquisition
 - 2. Hardware and software development/procurement
 - 3. Research and applications development
- VI. DOI Role in the Federal Interagency Arena
 - 1. Planning for future sensor systems
 - 2. Determination of national priorities for remote sensing research
 - 3. Global earth science
 - 4. Long-term preservation of aircraft and satellite remotely sensed data
 - 5. Acquisition, testing, and use of data from foreign satellite sensing systems
- VII. Summary and Conclusions
- VIII. Bibliography